

# Senior Service Fellow, Arboviral Ecologist (GS-13) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID) Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (DVBD) Arboviral Diseases Branch (ADB) Fort Collins, CO

### **Position and Organization Description**

The Division of Vector-borne Disease (DVBD) in Fort Collins, CO, is seeking a Senior Service Fellow, Arboviral Ecologist (GS-13) in its Arboviral Diseases Branch (ADB). The incumbent will serve as an Arboviral Ecologist performing duties concerning the components of vector-borne disease cycles that lead to spillover of vector-borne pathogens to humans.

The ADB in the DVBD is located in Fort Collins, CO, and focuses on prevention and control of viruses transmitted to humans by infected arthropod vectors, primarily mosquitoes and ticks. Different vectors, animal hosts, and tissue tropisms contribute to variations in distribution, disease incidence, and clinical manifestations. West Nile virus is the leading domestic cause of arboviral disease. Other arboviruses cause sporadic cases and outbreaks, such as St. Louis encephalitis, eastern equine encephalitis, La Crosse, Jamestown Canyon, Powassan, Heartland, Bourbon, and Colorado tick fever viruses. Chikungunya, Japanese encephalitis, yellow fever, tick-borne encephalitis, and Zika viruses are important causes of disease internationally. The DVBD is an international leader in researching, preventing, and controlling viruses and bacteria spread by vectors including mosquitoes, ticks, and fleas. Our staff includes entomologists, epidemiologists, molecular biologists, laboratorians, microbiologists, physicians, veterinarians, virologists, and zoologists. For more information about NCEZID and DVBD, visit its website Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (DVBD) | Division of Vector-Borne Diseases | NCEZID | CDC.

## Job responsibilities

Domestic Arboviral Ecology: Address gaps in knowledge of tick-borne virus reservoir and amplification hosts in the United States. Investigate non-arthropod and non-human components of tick-borne virus natural cycles towards novel methods of interrupting the transmission cycle. Address gaps in knowledge of mosquito-borne virus reservoir and amplification hosts in the United States. Investigate non-arthropod and non-human components of mosquito-borne virus natural cycles towards novel methods of interrupting the transmission cycle.

International Arboviral Ecology: Work will focus on arboviruses with high invasive potential for the United States and will align with the CDC/DVBD/ADB Strategic Plan.

Designs research studies and conducts field and laboratory research on vector-borne diseases with emphasis on the role of vertebrates in the ecology of these agents. Provides consultation and assistance to local, state, and federal agencies during arboviral disease epidemics. Summarizes results of investigations and research and prepares manuscripts for publication and/or presentation at scientific meetings. Serves as a source of information primarily on their own projects, and unrelated or similar projects elsewhere.

The research will result in a series of documentable additions to knowledge or comparable contributions to current technology such as a better understanding of roles of vertebrates and arbovirus transmission and amplification towards the goal of actionable public health guidance.

The research will result in contributions that advance knowledge in the field and influences major national CDC programs, including surveillance and control of arboviral disease.

#### **Oualifications**

Applicants must be U.S. citizens. Applicants must have a Doctoral level degree with major study in an academic field related to the field of entomology, vector ecology, wildlife ecology, or allied sciences appropriate to the work of the position. This degree must be from an educational program from an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education <a href="https://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/">https://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/</a> at the time the degree was obtained. In addition to the degree requirement, applicants must have one year of postdoctoral experience related to the work of the position. Strong speaking and writing skills, and the ability to work in a team environment is required.

#### **Pay and Benefits**

Salary range:\$109,107-\$141,836. The Federal Government offers a comprehensive benefits package. Explore the major benefits offered to most Federal employees at <a href="https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/benefits/">https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/benefits/</a>.

# **Application process**

Interested applicants should contact Roxanne Connelly, Team Lead, Entomology and Ecology, Arboviral Diseases Branch, at csz5@cdc.gov